

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 539

By Faison

A RESOLUTION to make application to the Congress of the United States pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution to call a constitutional convention for the sole purpose of proposing a balanced budget amendment.

WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution requires the United States Congress to call a constitutional convention upon application of two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states for the purpose of proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the Congress of the United States is directed to call a convention for proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring that in the absence of a national emergency the total of all Federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated Federal revenues for that fiscal year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this application is to be considered as covering the same subject matter as the presently outstanding applications concerning a convention to propose a balanced budget amendment from other states, including, but not limited to, Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas, and that this application shall be aggregated with such applications for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require the calling of a convention, but shall not be aggregated with any applications on any other subject.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this application shall be rescinded and void if at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have not made applications for similar relief pursuant to Article V by January 1, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., Vice President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.; the Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.; to each member of the United States Senate and House of Representatives from Tennessee; and to the Archivist of the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution also be sent to the presiding officers of the other state legislative bodies in the United States, with the request that the other states join Tennessee in applying to Congress to call a constitutional convention for the limited purpose proposed in this resolution.